

Docket No. 217 – Development and Management Plan Inspection

Northeast Utilities Service Company Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction of a 345-kV electric transmission line and reconstruction of an existing 115-kV electric transmission line between Connecticut Light and Power Company's Plumtree Substation in Bethel, through the towns of Redding, Weston, and Wilton, and to the Norwalk Substation in Norwalk, Connecticut.

Date: February 9, 2006

Inspector: Don Ukers

Location: Overhead Line (Composite 345kV and 115kV Gallows Hill to Archers Lane) and (345kV H-Frame Hoyts Hill to Gallows Hill)

Storm/

Rain Event: Approximately 1.37" of precipitation fell, mostly in the form of rain between 2/3-2/5 as reported by NOAA.

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
Access Roads and Adjacent Roadways	- The Composite ROW work is accessible from Gallows Hill Road by an existing trail path with a swing gate, an approved access path in from the east of the ROW, an access road passing through the Archers Lane substation, and an area cleared from the station to the ROW. 2/9/06	- With freezing and thawing periods, additional measures for stability should be considered for access needs. If any areas still have ruts at the end of the work, it will have to be regraded to return to original conditions. 12/8-2/9/06
Composite	- Water levels at the 2 nd wetland crossing on the access road remained relatively constant to the last inspection. Haybales were well in place along the silt fence here. 2/2/06.	-The additional stone and reinforced controls will likely reduce turbidity here. Continue to maintain. 2/9/06.
345kV H-Frame	- See erosion control section for more details. 2/9/06.	
	- Construction of access roads continues in the vicinity of Hoyts Hill. The wetland crossings between here and Chestnut Ridge remain well in place. 2/2-2/9/06	- Continue to maintain as needed. 2/2-2/9/06
	-Mats are in place in at least 5 wetland locations in the Bethel	- The crossings are well constructed and the larger

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
Erosion controls continued	<p>from road run-off.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sediment accumulation in the wetland ranges from a thin layer on the leaves to several inches thick. 1/26-2/9/06 	<p>help. 1/4-2/9/06</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In areas where sediment is substantial and feasibly removable, contractors should shovel it out carefully by hand. 1/26-2/9/06
345kV H-Frame	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The 2nd structure in from Gallows Hill has a bare soil/boulder slope adjacent to the wetland with controls still well in place. 11/23-2/9/06. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The area should be regraded, to final contours and restored when feasible. 12/1-2/9/06
Chestnut Ridge Section	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The matted crossings in the Chestnut Ridge section are well protected. Continue to provide good controls at the wetlands near poles #1 and 2. Some brush was noted over silt fence near the wetland crossing. 2/9/06 - A large amount of sediment resulted from excavation for structure #6. Sediment was pulled back from the outer silt fence barrier to reduce strain. However, the majority of the pile is still in a wetland area. 2/2-2/9/06 - Sediment previously tracked through the woods to a wetland at the base of slope as a result of dewatering here. 2/9/06 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Continue to place controls at all four “corners” of the approach to the mats and crossings. Watch for increasingly muddy conditions on the mats. 2/9/06 - Remove the soil here ASAP since the sediment and controls are already in a wetland area. 1/19-2/9/06
Bethel Reservoir Section	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The stockpile from structure #9 foundation installation was present at last inspection. 1/26-2/9/06 - The matted crossing between proposed poles #10-11 had become increasingly muddy. 1/26-2/9/06 - Similar issues were noted at the crossing between #17-18 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Install erosion controls at the base of slope to prevent sedimentation or remove the majority of the sediment from the woods. 2/9/06 - We need to confirm whether the stockpile was removed. If not, monitor run-off to the roadway. 2/9/06 - Install silt fence or haybales at the “four corners” of the mat. Consider stone on the access road approach to remove some of the sediment accumulation. 2/2-2/9/06 - Place controls, consider

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
	<p>which was increasingly muddy. Sedimentation was noted in the water below the mat here. 2/2-2/9/06</p> <p>- Mats near proposed pole #19 were also increasingly muddy. Silt fence installation was completed at the mat. 2/9/06</p> <p>-Silt fence was recommended at this structure as well due to its proximity to wetlands. 1/12-2/9/06</p> <p>-Silt fence was installed along the access road near pole #21. 2/9/06</p>	<p>stone installation and carefully remove accumulated sediment in the wetland. 2/2-2/9/06</p> <p>- Chips were installed along the access road which may help with sediment on the mats. 2/9/06</p> <p>-Install fence as necessary. Work had not yet reached this structure but the location was staked. 1/12-2/9/06</p> <p>- If access continues beyond this pole, install proper controls and crossings. 2/9/06</p>
<p>Inland Wetland and Watercourse encroachment and mitigation</p> <p>Composite</p> <p>345kV H-Frame</p>	<p>-The D&M plan approved stone on geotextile fabric at the wetland crossings had worked well, but at three areas near Archers Lane, turbidity issues have been present. Run-off from the road, the drainage pipe, and snow plow issues had led to sedimentation. 1/4-2/9/06</p> <p>- The rocks at the 1st crossing remain clogged with sediment and noticeable deposits were in the wetland. 1/4-2/9/06</p> <p>-Crossings were well installed but mats are getting muddy in several locations. 1/4-2/9/06</p> <p>- Sedimentation to the wetland was noted at the crossing between poles #17-18 2/2-2/9/06.</p> <p>- Use caution in removing trees from wetland areas or adjacent to streams. Avoid creating ruts when skidding them out. 1/19-2/9/06</p> <p>- It appears that little brush was left behind at the stream between poles #10-11. 2/2-2/9/06</p>	<p>- As the access is considered temporary, the stone will be removed when final work ends so the wetlands can be restored. Erosion controls and stone were much improved at the second crossing. 1/26-2/9/06</p> <p>- The 1st crossing could also use some clean stone. Sediment will have to be carefully removed. 1/4-2/9/06</p> <p>-See recommendations in erosion control section.1/4-2/9/06</p> <p>- This may need to be removed carefully by hand. 2/2-2/9/06</p> <p>- If channelization is noted as a result during the spring, the previously created ruts should be repaired if possible. 1/12-2/9/06</p> <p>- Try to leave shrubs and low growth where possible, especially at stream buffers. 2/2-2/9/06</p>

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At the excavation for proposed structure #6, a large amount of mud was contained within the silt fence but it was already within the wetland. 1/19-2/9/06 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of workspace is an issue here but the erosion controls and mud were within the wetland. The entire pile should be pulled back/removed and controls reinstalled closer to the pole. 1/19-2/9/06
State species of concern, threatened and endangered species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The composite portion of overhead work includes state-listed turtle habitat area. 9/15-2/9/06. -The Eastern box turtle has not been observed since the first sighting and are likely hibernating. 2/9/06. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Turtles would no longer be active at this time of year. 2/9/06
Vegetative clearing limits (including trees to save or danger trees noted)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clearing was complete up to Nashville Rd. in the H-frame section and trees were being stockpiled and cut up. Chips remain as well. They may be utilized by landowners. 12/22-2/9/06 - Chips continue to be spread out on the ROW in the vicinity of poles 19 and 21. Efforts have been good to keep them out of wetlands. 2/9/06 - Trees are also being cleared adjacent to streams and wetlands to expand the ROW. 1/12-2/9/06 - Now that clearing is done at the stream crossing between #10-11. Remove any larger branches strewn in the stream. 2/9/06 - Some access had been noted beyond pole #21. 2/2-2/9/06 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Keep clearing to what is necessary. The D&M plan states low growing shrubs can remain. 12/22-2/9/06 - Chips spread on the ROW should not be to a depth of more than 3" by the time the growing season is about to begin. 1/4-2/9/06 - Stumps will remain and trees should be felled toward the mats to avoid ruts in the stream. 1/12-2/9/06 - Efforts to retain shrubs were noted in some sections but areas near the stream crossing here seem somewhat bare. Attempt to retain buffers, especially at streams. 2/2-2/9/06 - If clearing access is needed here, provide appropriate controls to the wetlands. 2/2-2/9/06

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action
Dewatering	- Active dewatering was not noted at a particular structure this week. 2/9/06	- Release water to the ground only in well vegetated areas if it will not reach any resource areas. (Make sure to check downgradient for these areas- i.e. as in pole #6) Otherwise use a filter bag or adequate containment. 2/9/06
Blasting	-No blasting has been necessary at this time on the ROW. 2/9/06.	-None at this time. 2/9/06.
Spills and Material Storage	- No drips or leaks were noted under any of the vehicles this week. 2/9/06	- Continue to keep all vehicles maintained well (i.e. no apparent fluid leaks) if they will be used or stored on site - Keep adequately size fuel kits for worst case scenarios. - Report spills immediately, even if they are being controlled. - Take care not to get carried away and to be vigilant when refueling. Avoid refueling in the areas near the wetlands. Use proper storage for all materials.
Additional Observations		

Next likely scheduled inspection:

Thursday, February 16, 2006

I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments and certify that based on reasonable investigation, including my inquiry of those individuals responsible for obtaining the information, the submitted information is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief, and I understand that any false statements made in this document or its attachments may be punishable as a criminal offense in accordance with Section 22a-6 under Section 53a-157 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

Inspector's Signature:

Diana Walden for Don Ukers